City Planning Commission

Erie, Pennsylvania January 19, 2016

-Minutes-

MEMBERS OF THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION:

The regular meeting of the City Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at **1:00 pm** in Room 500, Municipal Building, 626 State Street.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Thomas Dworzanski, Don Marinelli, and Richard Speicher

Members Absent: Mark Kloecker and Gary Antalek

- 2. On a motion by **Mr. Speicher**, seconded by **Mr. Marinelli**, the December 15, 2015, meeting minutes were approved unanimously as received.
- 3. Caleb Pifer, currently serving on the Design Review Committee, wishes to have Mr. Jack Watts appointed as the Historical Society's representative to the Design Review Committee. Mr. Pifer's term expires on March 1, 2017.

On a motion by **Mr.** Speicher, and seconded by **Mr. Marinelli**, the appointment was tabled until February.

4. At the request of City Council, the Commission will discuss and make a recommendation for the proposed rezoning of parcels (19) 5192-403, 404, 405, 406, and 407, 715 East 37th, 709 East 37th, 703 East 37th, 704 E 38th, and 714/718 East 38th Streets, respectively, owned by Aspen Hill Partners LLC. The proposed rezoning will be from R-1 Low Density Residential to C-1 Local Commercial.

At the request of the applicant, the rezoning proposal was removed from the agenda until the February meeting.

5. The Commission held a pre-approval Planning Commission conference for a proposed communication tower/antenna located on Mercyhurst University's campus at 100 Mercy Drive to review the neighborhood involvement meeting as per Section 305.45.5(h) of the Erie City Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Bob Rittle, from Crown Castle, was present to discuss the neighborhood involvement meeting. The meeting was held December 21, 2015 at 7:00 PM at Mercyhurst University. Mr. Rittle explained that this is one of the locations for their small tower equipment. This one is located on private property. The proposed installation will assist with service on this particular side of campus (the west side) as this is a heavy traffic area for service. A thirty-foot high pole will be installed with the ground-based cabinet being deplored nearby. The project was discussed at the neighborhood involvement meeting, including design. The only question from those in attendance was regarding the radio interfering with AM radio frequencies. The proposed antenna will not interfere with AM radio frequencies.

The Commission had several questions for Mr. Rittle. When asked about the antenna, Mr. Rittle stated that the antenna is 24"X16" in diameter and completely encased. All wires will be located in the proposed pole. Questioned about the radius of service, Mr. Rittle stated that the service radius is approximately a quarter of a mile, depending on terrain. When questioned about complaints, Mr. Rittle stated that they have had only one complaint with the installments in the City, with regards to visibility. Crown Castle has installed approximately thirty-five such antennas in the City.

On a motion by **Mr. Marinelli** and seconded by **Mr. Speicher**, the Commission granted preapproval for the proposed communication tower/antenna.

6. With all business completed, the Commission adjourned at 1:30 PM.